

## ***GSM Parents!***

We have a **BIG** announcement! **Next Wednesday, June 3rd, we are reopening GSM services!**

We can't even begin to express how excited we are to see your students and connect with them again in person! Obviously the world is a much different place than it was just a few months ago, so as we return, our services will look a little different for a while.

All of the GSM leaders have met up to discuss and create the best plan possible to keep your students safe and healthy while still being able to connect and attend service on a Wednesday.

\* Our reopen plan is based on a **semi-phased approach**. The *GSM safety measures* listed below are to be fully followed during the first phase of reopening, **which will last two weeks**. If things continue to go well in regards to students' safety and health after the first two weeks, GSM will then enter the second phase of reopening which will include:

- Reincorporation of longer preservice time and preservice games
- Relaxation of social distancing
- Relaxation of temperature checks, masks, and regulations on restroom use.

***This of course is all subject to change based on the guidance of our governing officials.***

### **Our Reason**

This pandemic has been such a new and different experience for everyone and if we're being honest, it's been very difficult for a lot of people, including our students. With that being said, we want to do all that we can to help and protect students' *spiritual, mental, and emotional health*. We want to make sure students are given opportunity to thrive and grow in their walk with Jesus and connect with others, while still majorly prioritizing their safety and physical health as well. We want you as a parent to have peace of mind knowing that your students are being well taken care of and that their health and safety are extremely important to us. With that being said, we have created a list of safety measures that we, as a team, are taking to ensure your students are healthy and safe when they walk through our doors on a Wednesday evening.

## **GSM Safety Measures**

### 1. *Touch-less*

- No hugs/handshakes/touching of any kind.
- Doors will be propped open/closed by **leaders only** during drop off and pick up.

### 2. *Masks*

- All leaders **will be** wearing masks during service for the time being.
- Students are not required to wear masks, however, they are welcome to bring their own, and free masks will be available at our outdoor check in station along with sanitizer and gloves.

### 3. *Seating*

- All chairs in the sanctuary will be individually spread out at 6 feet to practice good social distancing.
- Students who live in the same household will be allowed to sit together.
- All chairs will be wiped down before and after service.

### 4. *Check-in*

- Check in for service will happen outside at the doors on the south side of the church building that lead directly into the main sanctuary. (The normal location students enter on Wednesday nights.)
- At least 4 leaders will be placed outside at the check-in station to:
  1. Check-in students on iPads (only two designated leaders will be touching iPads)
  2. Provide gloves, masks, and sanitizer to every student in need.
  3. Use a touch-less thermometer to check **EVERY** student. (Students with a temp of 100.4 or higher will not be allowed to attend service until given a clean bill of health)
  4. Ensure that all students being checked in and waiting to go into service are practicing safe social distancing.

### 5. *Preservice*

- To avoid crowding outside and inside of the sanctuary during our normal extended hangout time, doors will only open 15 minutes before the start of service at 6:45pm. This will provide just enough time for students to check in, get a temp check, and get to their seats.
- All games that are normally set out for preservice hangout **will NOT** be out for the time being. *\*we know, the lack of games makes us sad too :(*

### 6. *Restrooms*

- Students who need to use the restroom will be sent one at a time to avoid contact with others.
- A leader will wipe down restroom door handles after each use.
- **The entire church building will be disinfected weekly before each Wednesday evening.**

\* We know that this time is impacting everyone very differently so, if you are not comfortable with your students attending GSM in person just yet, we absolutely understand! We will be streaming live on GSM's Facebook and Instagram accounts for the service each week. Leaders will also have a zoom link ready to go for small groups so that any student unable to attend in person students can still be present and experience a Wednesday night!

We know this is a lot of information, but we just want to approach reopening with wisdom and have a plan in place. We value our students, their walks with Jesus, and of course their well being! This season is a challenge, but it is one that we believe we can all come out of stronger than we came in. We hope this gives you peace of mind as a parent and again, we are so excited to hangout with your students next Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>! If you have any questions or concerns at all, please do not hesitate to reach out!

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Thank you for your time and thank you for letting your student be a part of GSM!